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PROSPECTUS



JUN 12 1833 OF THE SAINT LAWRENCE COMPANY.

IN detailing the various advantages that will result to the Canadas at large by the immediate improvement of the River Saint Lawrence, it is hardly necessary to dwell on the great benefit that will be derived therefrom by the Inhabitants of British North America, and more particularly by those residing in Upper-Canada, to whom, at first view, it appears more directly applicable, but it can easily be proved that it applies with equal advantage to the Inhabitants residing in other parts of British North America. The Trade and resources of this Country will be greatly improved, independant of an easy and expeditious mode of access being opened to Upper-Canada, a country hitherto very little frequented, owing to the dangers and difficulties attendant on travelling to the Upper Lakes.

The Committee would more particularly direct the attention of Capitalists and Men of property to this object, by stating that the Merchant will derive great facilities in transacting business ; the Landholder or Capitalist will increase his income ; the forwarder will be enabled to transport property with greater facility and more certain profit ; and the community at large will derive incalculable advantages by making the access to the Lakes for Boats carrying Five hundred Barrels under cover equally easy with that to the Harbours of Quebec and Montreal.

By these means a direct Trade may be opened with the Lower Ports in the Gulph and parts adjacent : and were a rail-road from Bay Verte to Chignecto Bay in the Bay of Fundy formed, a Vessel of the above description might reach the Town of St. John's New-Brunswick without breaking bulk in nearly the same time that a Boat can descend to New-York by the Erie Canal at a much greater expense. The contemplated improvements it is confidently expected might be effected in the course of the ensuing season.

The freight of a Barrel of Flour from Kingston to Montreal is now 2s. 9d ; a boat takes from ten to twenty days in making a trip, with from 5 to 8 men, and other great expenses attendant in towing up, at different places in the Rapids, with Oxen, Horses, &c.

The proposed Plan embracing three Steam Tow Boats with Chains and fixtures, will assuredly surmount all difficulties, in returning Boats up the Rapids &c. as that the Crews of two or three Boats, with the assistance of Horses most certainly now take up one Boat ; for it is evident that a Steam Engine of twenty horse power is a greater power than any force hitherto applied at some places in a very injudicious manner ; whereas upon the contemplated plan, the full & efficient force of the Engine will operate in towing. With respect to the other advantages to be obtained, they are as follow :— A Durham Boat or Batteau will make two trips to one in the same given time with half the number of men, that is, 5. 6d. instead of 2s. 9. down, and 11s. instead of 5s. 6d. up : —The Proprietor will save at least 6d. upon a Barrel, on all Produce down, in coo- perage, damages and other *et ceteras*, independant of that on his freight up, which is incal- culable, when breakage, leakage and damages, &c. are taken into account, exclusive of interest, risk and detention on Goods forwarded up and down, with the loss of those great advantages, accruing from quick sales and returns, which a facility of inter- course naturally occasions. To obtain those advantages it is proposed that a Com- pany be formed with a capital of not less than £16,000, having the exclusive privilege for a certain number of years of navigating the Rapids of the River St. Lawrence with the following allowance, should the wisdom of Government, or the Legislature, devise no other mode of proceeding.

A Tonnage duty of 4s. on all measurement Goods down, and 4s. on all Goods proceeding up the River—3s. per Ton on all coarse Goods sold by weight or measure, such as Salt, Coals, Iron, Lead, &c. up; and 3s. down; with a duty of 4s. per Ton register measurement on all Boats or Batteaux using the Tow-up, none to be entitled to the privilege of using the Tow-up, who do not pay the dues proceeding down the River, otherwise advantage would be taken of the Company, as the principal freight is down, and by the Boats, returning speedily at a reasonable charge, they will be enabled to double their gains in a short space of time. This, with 1s. on every Passenger, the Committee feel assured will enable Stockholders to derive a profitable interest on the Money they may invest, which is offered to the Public in shares of £25. The Company to have the power of regulating the charge on intermediate distances, as may be deemed most expedient, and at a proportionate rate.

By Order of the Committee,

JAMES GEORGE,

Secretary to the Saint Lawrence Association.

Quebec, 10th December 1824.

By these means a direct Trade may be opened with the Lower Ports in the Gulf and parts adjacent, and save a full-ton from Bay View to Kingston Bay in the Bay of Fundy, and a 7-ton of the above description might reach the Town of St. J. N. New-Brunswick without breaking bulk in nearly the same time that a boat could send to New-York by the Erie Canal at a much greater expense. The contemplated improvement is a considerably expedient which is checked in the case of the trading season.

The freight of a barrel of Flour from Kingston to Montreal is now 3s. 6d.; a boat takes from ten to twenty days in making a trip, with from 5 to 6 men and other great expenses attendant in towing up at different places in the Rapids, with Oxen, Horses, &c.

The proposed Plan comprising three Steam Tow Boats with Engines and Boilers, will assemblely surmount all difficulties, in returning Boats up the Rapids &c. as that the Crews of two or three Boats, with the assistance of Horses most certainly now take up one Boat; for it is evident that a Steam Engine of twenty horse power is a greater power than any force hitherto applied at some places to a very injudicious manner; whereas upon the contemplated plan, the full & efficient force of the Engine will operate in towing. With respect to the other advantages to be obtained, they are as follow:—A Barbed Boat or Batteau will make two trips to one in the same given time with half the number of men, that is, 5. 6d. instead of 2s. 6. down and 1s. instead of 5s. 6d. up:—The Proprietor will save at least 50 upon a Barrel, on all produce down, in comparison with the other mode of proceeding, independent of that on his freight up which is far more valuable when brokenage, leakage and damage, for instance, into account, exclusive of interest, risk and detention on Goods forwarded up and down, with the loss of those great advantages, resulting from quick sales and returns which a facility of intercourse naturally occasions. To obtain those advantages it is proposed that a Company be formed with a capital of not less than £16,000, paying the exclusive privilege for a certain number of years of navigating the Rapids of the River St. Lawrence with the following allowance, should the wisdom of Government, or the Legislature, desire no other mode of proceeding.

